

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION SS-25

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S E C R E T GENEVA 07765

EXDIS

USSALTTWO

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PARM
SUBJECT: WARNKE/EARLE - SEMENOV PRIVATE MEETING, MAY 18,
1978 (SALT TWO 1757)

1. AT MAY 18 PRIVATE MEETING SEMENOV SAID USSR IN NO WAY
COULD AGREE TO NEW TYPES EXEMPTION FOR MIRVED ICBM.
WARNKE NOTED IMPASSE, REAFFIRMING TWO ALTERNATIVE U.S.
PROPOSALS BUT SAID THERE WAS NO CHANCE U.S. WOULD AGREE
TO PROVISION THAT WOULD IN EFFECT PERMIT ONLY USSR TO HAVE
NEW ICBM. SOVIET POSITION WAS ONE-SIDED AND WOULD GIVE
USSR ADVANTAGE. SEMENOV SAID ISSUE WOULD REQUIRE DISCUS-
SION AT DIFFERENT LEVEL.

2. RE DEFINITION OF ICBM NEW TYPES, SEMENOV SAID POSITIONS
COINCIDED CONCERNING MISSILE AS A WHOLE. IN RESPONSE TO
MY QUESTIONS ON SOVIET DEFINITION, SEMENOV SAID:

--JANUARY 1, 1977 DATE, EARLIER THAN U.S. DATE, WAS
AIMED AT EFFECTIVE LIMITATIONS.

--INITIAL WEIGHT AND TOTAL IMPULSE NOT MENTIONED BE-
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CAUSE THIS WAS UNNECESSARY AND WOULD CREATE AMBIGUI-
TIES FOR VERIFICATION BY NTM. IT WOULD BE UNWARRANTED
INTRUSION INTO TECHNOLOGICAL DESIGN AREA.

HE DID NOT RESPOND DIRECTLY TO MY QUESTIONS RE ABSENCE IN
SOVIET PROPOSALS OF REFERENCE TO PBVS, FRACTIONATION
LIMITS, OR OFFLOAD PROVISION. HE ALSO REAFFIRMED THAT

FIVE PERCENT FACTOR ONLY APPLIES TO TERM "DIFFERENT" AND DOES NOT AFFECT OTHER LIMITATIONS. I STRESSED THAT LIMITATIONS ON NEW TYPES WERE INTRUSIONS BY DEFINITION, AND U.S. BELIEVED THEY WERE WARRANTED. WARNKE STRESSED DANGERS OF COMPETITION IN ICBM RVS.

3. IN REVIEW OF ISSUES WHICH WERE STILL INCOMPLETELY RESOLVED, WARNKE REMINDED SEMENOV THAT U.S. PREVIOUSLY HAD PRESENTED SEMENOV WITH A PAPER SETTING FORTH OUR VIEW THAT BAN ON DELIBERATE CONCEALMENT MEASURES NECESSARILY INCLUDED A PROHIBITION ON DELIBERATE DENIAL OF TELEMETRIC INFORMATION WHICH WOULD IMPEDE VERIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH PROVISIONS OF THE AGREEMENT BY MEANS SUCH AS ENCRYPTION. HE TOOK IT THAT THERE WAS NO DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES REGARDING FACT THAT ANY SUCH MEASURES WHICH WERE DELIBERATE AND IMPEDED VERIFICATION BY NATIONAL TECHNICAL MEANS WERE BANNED. HOWEVER, HE SAID WE WOULD LIKE TO OBTAIN CONFIRMATION OF THIS FROM THE SOVIET SIDE SO AS TO AVOID MISUNDERSTANDINGS IN THE FUTURE.

4. SEMENOV REPLIED THAT HE BELIEVED WE DID HAVE MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING ON THE QUESTION OF TELEMETRY. THE ARGUMENTS THAT HAD FOR A LONG TIME AND QUITE FRUITLESSLY TORMENTED THE MINDS OF SOME PEOPLE HAD FINALLY BEEN REMOVED AND THEY WERE NO LONGER VALID. HE ASKED WHETHER IT WOULD BE NECESSARY ONCE AGAIN TO DEAL WITH "THIS CORPSE." SEMENOV
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THOUGHT THIS QUESTION WAS CLEAR.

5. AS HE WAS LEAVING, SEMENOV SAID HE PLANNED TO REPORT TO MOSCOW THAT HEAVY BOMBER ISSUES ARE JUST ABOUT SOLVED. EARLE

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NNN

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